

NAOJ Postdoctoral Researcher Stationed at University of Tokyo

Vacant Post:

Project Researcher (equivalent to postdoctoral researcher), one position

Job Description:

The NAOJ (National Astronomical Observatory of Japan) JASMINE Project invites applications for a Project Researcher (equivalent to postdoctoral researcher) for JASMINE Joint Scientific Research Program to conduct the research project “Studies on Mira variable stars in the JASMINE observation area”. The successful candidate will spend 100% of his/her time for this project in collaboration with Assistant Professor Noriyuki Matsunaga at the University of Tokyo (Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan). The successful candidate is required (1) to publish one first-author paper per year, (2) to present his/her results at research meetings, etc. (at least once a year), and (3) to contribute to the annual JASMINE Consortium meeting as a member of SOC. Note that a candidate does not necessarily need to have research experience on the subject of this study (Mira-type variable stars), as long as he/she has the experience and ability to analyze time-series photometric data of variable stars.

(Scope of possible changes) no changes

See below for further information.

- The JASMINE Joint Scientific Research Program:
https://jasmine.nao.ac.jp/grant/JASMINE_grant_en.html
- The research project:
https://jasmine.nao.ac.jp/grant/jasmine_grant_2024-01_e.pdf

Work location:

The successful candidate will be employed by NAOJ and will be stationed at University of Tokyo. In case the PI of the project (Assistant Professor Matsunaga) moves to another university or institute, the successful candidate is expected to accompany the PI. However, if the PI of the project moves to the NAOJ or other university/institute where the successful candidate cannot follow the PI, the successful candidate will be relocated to NAOJ in Mitaka and continue the proposed research project.

(Scope of possible changes) Place determined by NINS/NAOJ

Term of Appointment:

In principle, the term is for two years from the starting date, and the probation period of six months is included. The starting date is February 1, 2026 or later, as soon as reasonably possible after the job offer has been accepted. Depending on the review of the research project that is held within 18 months of the project start, the term may be extended for another year. If the successful candidate had been employed by the National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS, which is an executive institute that manages NAOJ) within 6 months retroactively from the starting date, the term will be set so that the total employment period does not exceed ten years.

Qualifications:

The applicant must have a PhD degree or equivalent research capabilities

Any researcher who has been employed as an NAOJ Project Research Fellow or a Researcher (Part-

time Contract Employee) for a total of five or more years since April of 2004 is not eligible to apply for this position.

Submission:

Applicants are required to apply via the NAOJ Nextcloud on the web. Please access the application form at the following URL:

<https://forms.office.com/r/6nmVLsykNN>

After you submit the initial form, you will receive an email showing the URLs for (a) uploading your application documents, and (b) for your reference letters. Once you get the URL(a) for your application documents, please upload the files corresponding to the documents (1) through (5) and (7). These files must be in PDF format (max 50MB each, 100MB in total, at most 10 files).

Please ask your references to upload their letters (6) via the URL(b) you receive for this purpose.

Required Application Materials written in English or Japanese:

- (1) Cover letter with the title of the research project.
- (2) Curriculum vitae (Please state your full name)
- (3) Publication list (Separate refereed papers from others. State your role for co-authored papers.)
- (4) PDF files of up to three papers that the applicant contributed
- (5) Statement describing your commitment and plans for the job
- (6) Two or more reference letters (must be sent by the reference persons themselves directly to the submission URL(b), before the deadline.)
- (7) Your e-mail address and phone number

Application Deadline:

The application deadline is October 31, 2025, 15:00 (JST)

Contacts:

Inquiries about application process

job11-pjt-researcher1_atmark_nao.ac.jp (replace _atmark_ with @)

Inquiries about research project

matsunaga_atmark_astron.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp (replace _atmark_ with @)

General inquiries

jasmine-grant-inquiry_atmark_ml.nao.ac.jp (replace _atmark_ with @)

Selection Process:

Qualified candidates who will proceed into the final selection may be interviewed by the selection committee either via the internet or in person. The expense for the interview will not be covered by NAOJ.

The NAOJ Fixed-Term Employee Selection Committee will make the final decision for the appointment.

Remarks:

This position is a full time position. The fellow will receive a monthly salary of 350,000 JPY plus compensation for commuting expenses up to 150,000 JPY each month. Social insurance, such as national health insurance, will be covered. Bonus and retirement allowances are not provided. Smoking is prohibited in general. The working hours and holidays will be in accordance with regulations of the University of Tokyo:

- Work days: 5 days per week (from Monday to Friday);
- Work type: Discretionary work;
- Holidays: Saturdays, Sundays, National Holidays, New Year Holidays;
- Paid Leave: shall be provided (annual paid leaves, maternity leave).

It is possible to apply for your own research funding, but the NAOJ JASMINE Project will have to confirm whether the funding application conforms to this JASMINE Joint Scientific Research Program.

Policy for Equal Employment Opportunity: Abiding by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women, NAOJ is committed to the realization of a society with gender equality. If two candidates are deemed equal in their performance evaluation, NAOJ will take positive action to employ women. For details, see

<https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/gender-equality/en>

Information submitted in your application documents will not be used for any purpose other than the selection process and for contacting you with necessary notices in connection with the selection. Once the selection process is complete, we will securely dispose of all application documents and personal information, except for those submitted by the successful candidate.

Name of Recruiter:

Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, National Institutes of Natural Sciences, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan